

HIRONORI MOTOE - U.S. Appln. No. 10/743,191
Attorney Docket No.: 008312-0307437

- Amendment -

REMARKS

Reconsideration and timely allowance of the pending claims, in view of the following remarks, are respectfully requested.

In the pending Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 5, 6, and 8, under 35 U.S.C. §102(b), as allegedly being anticipated by Kanai '442 (U.S. Pat. No. 5,903,442).

The Examiner objected to the Specification as containing minor errors, objected to claim 7 as being dependent upon a rejected claim, and objected to independent claim 9 as containing minor informalities.

The Examiner also indicated that claims 1-4 have been allowed, that claims 9-11 would be allowable if amended to overcome the objection of claim 9, and indicated that claim 7 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

By this Amendment, the Specification has been amended to correct the minor errors indicated by the Examiner. In addition, claim 9 has been amended to correct the minor informalities, claims 5-6 have been cancelled, and claim 7 has been rewritten into independent form, as suggested by the Examiner.

Accordingly, Applicant requests the withdrawal of the objections to the Specification and claims 7 and 9, and the prior art rejections of pending claims 1-4 and 7-11.

All matters having been addressed, Applicants respectfully requests the entry of this Amendment, the Examiner's reconsideration of this application, and the immediate allowance of pending claims 1-4 and 7-11.

Applicant's Counsel remains ready to assist the Examiner in any way to facilitate and expedite the prosecution of this matter. Should the Examiner feel that a personal discussion might be helpful in advancing this case to allowance, the Examiner is invited to telephone the Undersigned.

- Page 7 of 8 -

400329672v1

HIRONORI MOTOE - U.S. Appl. No. 10/743,191
Attorney Docket No.: 008312-0307437

- Amendment -

Please charge any fees associated with the submission of this paper to Deposit Account Number 033975, Order No. 008312-307437. The Commissioner for Patents is also authorized to credit any over payments to the above-referenced Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

**PILLSBURY WINTHROP
SHAW PITTMAN LLP**



E. R. HERNANDEZ
Reg. No. 47641
Tel. No. 703 770.7788
Fax No. 703.770.7901

Date: March 7, 2006
P.O. Box 10500
McLean, VA 22102
(703) 770-7900